

'The Parishioners Loved Him'

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JEFF BEIERMANN/THE WORLD-HERALD

INVESTIGATORS: Police officers work on the homicide of the Rev. William Kleffman outside St. Agnes Catholic Church on Thursday morning.



# St. Agnes Priest, Is Killed

The Rev. William Kleffman's body is discovered inside the church's rectory at 22nd and Q Streets

BY ANGIE BRUNKOW and JUDITH NYGREN  
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITERS

An 81-year-old Omaha priest was found slain Thursday morning inside the rectory at St. Agnes Catholic Church.

The Rev. William Kleffman, who had served the church at 22nd and Q Streets since 1968, was found dead in the rectory's kitchen about 8:30 a.m. by a parishioner after the priest didn't show up for mass.

"She went over to find out why he was late and found him," said Sam Rabiola, who attends the church.

Police were investigating the death as a homicide but would not release the cause of death or speculate on a motive. They wouldn't say whether the rectory had been broken into, in what room Kleffman was found or whether there were signs of a struggle.

An Omaha Archdiocese official said

## The Rev. William C. Kleffman

- Born Dec. 30, 1915, in Chicago; moved to Omaha in 1930 with family.
- 1941-44: Assistant pastor, Blessed Sacrament Church, Omaha.
- 1944-46 U.S. Army chaplain, 410th Infantry Regiment in Europe.
- 1946-53: Pastor, St. Rose Church, Hooper, and St. Lawrence Church, Scribner.
- 1953-68: Pastor, St. Mary Church, Wayne.
- 1968-97: Pastor, St. Agnes Church, Omaha.
- Retired: June 25, 1997.
- Ordained May 31, 1941, at St. Cecilia Cathedral.




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TOM ALLAN, 7  
ENVIRONMENT, 10

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, AUGUST 24, 1997



Michael Kelly

## Priest's Death Sickens City

Late in World War II, an American infantryman stood high in a French barn, firing in defense of an aid station until the wounded could be evacuated. A German machine gun sent splinters flying from the rafter the GI stood on, causing him to fall and lose his rifle.

The GI, a sergeant from Illinois in the 103rd Infantry Division, stepped outside to find his compatriots — and everyone was gone. Then he heard Germans talking.

After rolling a grenade around the corner, he ran for his life.

"I saw a Jeep tearing down the road toward me and flagged it," the sergeant said later. "It was the chaplain, and I was glad to see him."

The chaplain was Capt. Bill Kleffman of Omaha. Father Bill Kleffman.

His Jeep and another American vehicle escaped through the town as enemy bullets whizzed by them.

The Rev. William Kleffman survived German bullets in 1945 and other horrors of war. After saving lives, winning a Bronze Star and four battle ribbons, he returned to Nebraska and his full-time job, saving souls.

Last week, at 81, the priest was bludgeoned to death in the rectory of St. Agnes Parish in south Omaha. A 56-year-old transient was arrested.

The slaying of the priest, a first in the Omaha Archdiocese, sickened people of all faiths, in all areas of the city. But it was especially difficult on south Omaha, a historic section of town that has undergone change and rebirth.

"With all the things happening in this world, it's disgusting that someone killed an old man like that," said former City Councilman Steve Tomasek.

"I guess we're in changing times, but we don't have to accept times that don't change for the better."

WH-8-24-97

## Suspect in Priest's Killing Awaits Court Appearance

BY VERONICA BURGHER  
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

The 56-year-old transient accused of killing a retired Omaha priest was back in Omaha Saturday, in police custody and facing murder charges.

Rogelio T. Gallegos, who has no permanent address, probably will have a court appearance Monday, when bail will be set, said police spokesman Jim Deignan.

Gallegos, who recently had worked odd jobs at St. Agnes Catholic Church in south Omaha, was charged with the murder of the Rev. William Kleffman, 81, whose body was found in the church's rectory Thursday morning.

County Attorney Jim Jansen filed an arrest warrant charging Gallegos Friday in Douglas County Court.

Gallegos was returned to Omaha Friday night from Keith County, Neb., by two Omaha police detectives. A State Patrol trooper detained him Thursday night at a bus depot in Ogallala.

Gallegos was believed to have left Omaha by Greyhound bus Thursday after spending three days at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church and nearby St. Agnes Church, where he worked scraping the floors in the rectory to prepare it for new carpet.

A police lineup was conducted Saturday. See KILLING Page 6

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Page 6

WH 8-24-97

2x SUNDAY WORLD-HERA

## KILLING Suspect in Death Of Priest Brought Back to Omaha

Continued from Page 1  
urday at police headquarters, but the results were not being released because the investigation continues, Deignan said.

Kleffman was found bludgeoned to death inside the rectory at 22nd and Q Streets. A parishioner found his body about 8:30 a.m. after the priest failed to show up to say the morning Mass. Although Kleffman had retired in June, he still said Mass and watched over the rectory while it was being renovated for a new priest.

The Rev. Damian Zuerlein, pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic

Church, 23rd and O Streets, said he met Gallegos last Saturday when Gallegos stopped by the church looking for work so he could get to San Francisco. The church agreed to provide Gallegos with a bus ticket in exchange for doing three days worth of odd jobs at the two south Omaha churches.

These services for Kleffman are planned:

■ A memorial service will be at 3 p.m. today at St. Agnes Church. It is being organized by parishioners who wish to pray and offer their memories of Kleffman.

■ Visitation will be from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. today at the West Center Chapel, 78th Street and West Center Road.

■ A wake will be at 7 p.m. Monday at St. Agnes Church.

■ The funeral Mass will be offered at 11:15 a.m. Tuesday at St. Cecilia Cathedral, 701 N. 40th St.

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GERMANY EDITION  
Volume 1, No. 31  
Saturday, May 5, 1945

# THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U. S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations

# Germanians Surrender In Holland, Denmark 7th and 5th Link

## Armies Join On Border At Brenner

The northern and southern operations of the Allied armies in Europe were joined into a single front yesterday, when troops of the 7th Army's 103d Div. raced through the Brenner Pass into Italy, to link up with advance units of the 5th Army, moving north from the Adige valley.

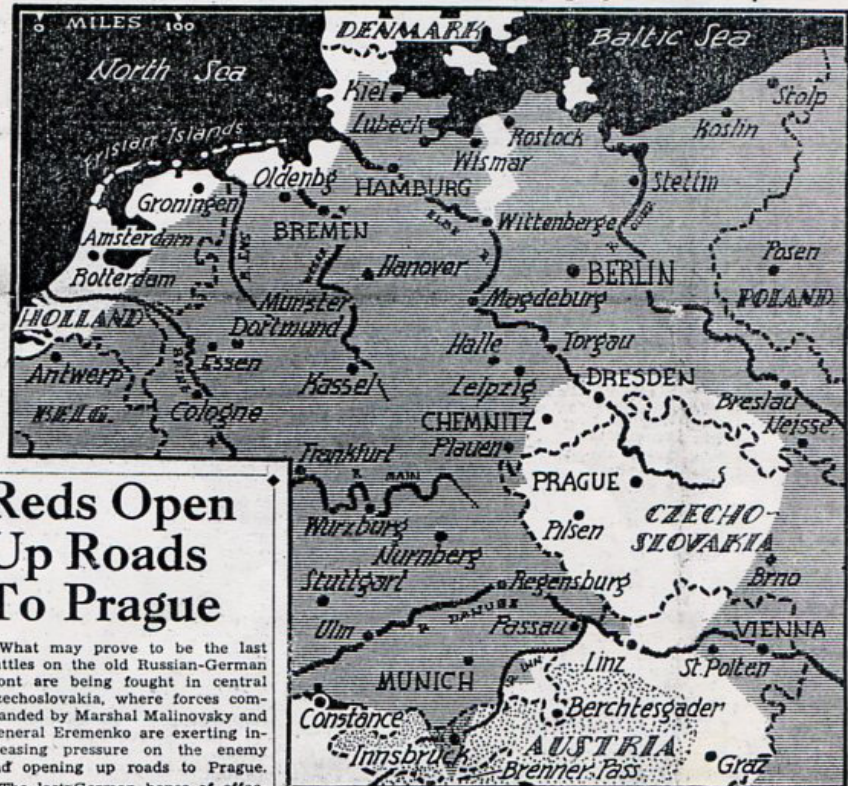
Virtually encircling the last remaining areas of German resistance in Central Europe, the linkup, coming after the surrender of the Nazis' southwestern command, reduced the operations of the western Allies to the clearing of pockets in the mountainous fringes of Austria and Czechoslovakia.

As the entire roof of the redoubt caved in, 7th Army men of the 3d Div. stormed through to clear Berchtesgaden, Hitler's mountain retreat in the Bavarian appendix. Salzburg, one of the presumed Nazi strongholds in Austria, fell. Innsbruck, capital of the Austrian Tyrol, was captured.

Organized resistance in the southwest sector of the 7th Army front was officially said to have collapsed along a stretch of 70 miles in western Austria. Troops of the 103d

(Continued on Page 4)

## Dwindling Fragments of the Once Mighty Nazi Empire



## Reds Open Up Roads To Prague

What may prove to be the last battles on the old Russian-German front are being fought in central Czechoslovakia, where forces commanded by Marshal Malinovsky and General Eremenko are exerting increasing pressure on the enemy and opening up roads to Prague.

The last German hopes of effective resistance on all other sectors were ending with the Red armies now linked with the Allies across a broad front. Soviet forces were

With the surrender of German forces in Denmark and Holland, ending resistance in the white areas in the northwest, the only serious fighting by the Nazis is in Czechoslovakia, where the Russians are advancing on Prague, and in Austria, where the Americans

## 103d Captures Innsbruck Amid Welter of Confusion Of Negotiations, Uprisings

By HOWARD BYRNE, Staff Correspondent

WITH THE 103D DIVISION, IN THE AUSTRIAN TYROL ALPS, May 3 (Delayed)—Although German troops in Italy and southern Austria have surrendered, artillery is still booming in this narrow gorge leading to the gateway of the Brenner Pass. Cactusmen are still fighting and dying here in the Innsbruck area.

Yesterday the 103d Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe, made a 15-mile advance through treacherous terrain against viciously defended roadblocks.

Heavy small arms, artillery and mortar fire was being encountered from defensive positions manned by young German lieutenants who recently received wholesale commissions at Mittenwald, "the German Fort Beating."

### Demands Surrender

The capture of Innsbruck was preceded by negotiations conducted by Maj. Bland West, who called the town commander by telephone and demanded surrender. The major, who comes from Norman, Okla., and gave up a law practice to write detective stories, told the German major general commanding the garrison that Innsbruck would be leveled by artillery if surrender was not forthcoming.

At 5 p.m. yesterday, a major representing the German General was brought blindfolded to the division CP to talk surrender. At midnight Maj. West, with Capt. Ernest H. Brown, of Scranton, Pa., as interpreter, entered Innsbruck with the German major, expecting to receive the general's surrender.

### Germaans Chink General

Instead, they found that during the day a resistance movement consisting of 300 disgusted Wehrmachers and 500 civilians had seized and jailed the general.

Maj. West returned to report to General McAuliffe that the only obstacle to taking the city was a fanatical colonel commanding a battalion holding the only road into Innsbruck. This officer had said that unless he heard from his general, he'd fight to the last man—and he was unable to reach the general because of the resistance people.

Troops of the 103d took advantage of the chaos and confusion to brush aside opposition and roll into the city. And, whether the city was captured or liberated—as the joyous population seemed to indicate—there was no doubt that Innsbruck had fallen to the American infantrymen.

## Davao Falls

## Two Armies Capitulate

(Continued from Page 1)

The surrender reduced the enemy's grip in central Europe to scattered fingerholds of wildcat resistance in the Austrian mountains; an uncleared pocket between converging American and Russian forces in Czechoslovakia, and isolated spots northwest of Berlin.

Deep penetrations were made in all these areas yesterday. Jumping off all along the rim of the Bohemian bowl, 3d Army troops drove at least 17 miles inside the border at undisclosed points. In Austria, elements of the 11th Armored and 26th Inf. Divs. entered Linz, meeting little opposition. Across the Danube, the sister city of Urfahr fell without a fight.

Following Friday's linkup between forces of the 7th and 5th Armies below the Brenner Pass, the capitulation of the Germans in Austria came as 7th Army troops broke through all along the northern base of the redoubt area, with Salzburg and Berchtesgaden falling to the 3d Div., while men of the 103d Div. captured Innsbruck and raced south across the Italian frontier.

## Nazi Gold Hoard Estimate Doubled

SHAEF, May 5—The great Nazi gold hoards found by U. S. troops in the Merkes Mine and hidden in bank vaults and under chicken-coops of other towns of the Thuringian plain are now estimated at fully double the one hundred tons originally reported.

What the actual value may be of the gold and the great flour-bags full of looted gems of Europe and currency of the world cannot authoritatively be guessed yet, an announcement said.

### WILL RETAIN WARD CONTROL

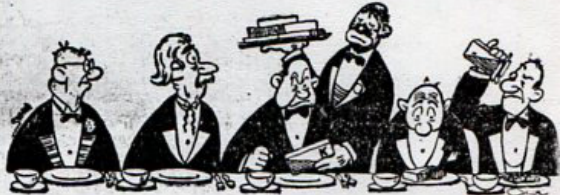
WASHINGTON, May 5 (ANS)—President Truman declared yesterday that the government has no intention of relaxing its control over the properties of Montgomery Ward and Co. The huge mail order

### Things Are Tough All Over

## Life in Capitol Foxholes

WASHINGTON, May 5 (ANS)—It's no bargain getting a meal on the House these days.

Things are getting so tough, in fact, that the Army is considering posting a guard around the display of K-rations that was set up some time ago in the House of Representatives' dining room.



The House restaurant ran out of butter last week and hasn't had any since—not even the slightly-ossified GI variety that looks like butter and spreads like butter but tastes like axle grease.

And one day last week there was no meat on the menu. "We just can't get it," the management explained.

## Allied Control Body to Rule Germany When AMG Quits

LONDON, May 5 (Reuter)—Preparations are in progress to begin operation of the Central Allied Control Commission, which, after the surrender of Germany, will take over the government of the country from the Allied military government. The commission will have

## End Seen In Norway

(Continued from Page 1)

people of Norway "to maintain calm and discipline at this 11th hour. The Norwegian government is in constant touch with home front leaders, with our allies and with the Allied Supreme Command. As soon as there is any news, it will be broadcast from London."

Field Marshal Sir Bernard Law Montgomery and an Allied military commission were to arrive in Copenhagen, the Danish capital yesterday, according to the Stockholm newspaper Aftonbladet.

The first victory salvo by a British army in the field was fired at 3 p.m. yesterday at Field Marshal Montgomery's 21st Army Group Hq. to salute the capitulation of German forces in Holland and Denmark.

## Danes Still Fight In Copenhagen

STOCKHOLM, May 5—Sporadic clashes between Danish patriots and German troops were reported this morning from Copenhagen as the Danes sought to disarm the Nazis following the German capitulation in Denmark. Casualties were

personnel of more than 4,000, which will be considerably increased with an additional staff.

The military government will rule for three months after the surrender while the Allied troops are being regrouped to occupy the areas agreed on by the Allies. Once the French zone of occupation is settled, the areas will be organized to allow their being taken over by the civilian Allied controller after three months.

### Berlin May Not Be Center

It is not clear whether Berlin, its damaged state will be able to accommodate the commission personnel and provide communication facilities. Thus it is possible that headquarters may be at more convenient center like Leipzig or Magdeburg. Although all four powers would like to have the commission in Berlin, if this is not possible Berlin may be included in the Russian zone of occupation and not be garrisoned by all four powers.

The commission is believed to be preparing for the handing over of some of the Allies of the looted equipment carried away by the Germans. Thousands of railroad cars, locomotives, trucks and cars have been taken from Belgium, France, Russia and other countries and if possible the Germans will be asked to hand them back immediately.

### Plan Economic Survey

The commission must make rapid economic survey of German

# 'LEST WE FORGET'

## Beachhead News 5-31-45

### Two Thirds of Okinawa Capital

(PRESS-RADIO), May 30 — All of Naha lying above the main harbor area was in American hands today as Marines and Infantrymen pressed their campaign to wrest Okinawa's capital city from the Jap fanatics.

The newest gains meant that two-thirds of the city had fallen. In the center of the Jap line bisecting the embattled island, Yank troops reached Shuri castle, former headquarters for the Nip commandant on Okinawa.

The Yanks, who have battled about everything in the book to forge their gains on Okinawa, ran into something new last night—naked Japanese swimmers who sought to sneak in on the east coast.

The Nips, stripped with the exception of a loin cloth, were armed with long knives. They were all discovered and liquidated.

Off Okinawa, the Japanese continued to waste airplanes in attacks against American supply ships operating around the island. One more light American warship was sunk, but it cost the Japs 50 planes.

#### RATIONING TO '50?

WASHINGTON, May 30 (ANS) — Senator Robert Wagner (D-NY) predicted today that food rationing in the U.S. would be necessary until 1950. His senate committee has approved continuance of the OPA until June 30, 1946.

### At Anzio . . .

ANZIO, May 30 (ANS) — "You have done well . . . we will not break the faith with you and we will carry on for you."

The words were spoken by Lt. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott, Jr., but the men to whom they were addressed couldn't hear him — they were lying under the long rows of white crosses in the American military cemetery near here.

General Truscott was chief speaker at Memorial Day services sponsored by the Rome Area Command in honor of the men who died on the Anzio Beachhead.

Hundreds of soldiers representing every division of the 5th Army, with other Allied units, stood with bowed heads as tribute was paid to the troops who died there.

U.S. Senator Burton K. Wheeler and two of his congressional colleagues were here to take part in the observance. Chaplains of all faiths participated and supervised the placing of flowers and American flags on the graves.

Highlight of the day came when General Truscott placed a wreath at the base of the huge American flag in the cemetery. Then "Taps" were played. And a light breeze ruffled the colors floating over the graves.

Also participating in the ceremonies were representatives of the VI Corps, U.S. Army, and the 3rd American Division who came from Austria to attend.

#### SYRIANS BATTLE

(Continued from Page One)

zooming into the city.

One British major was reported killed in the bombardment and British civilians in the city have been ordered evacuated.

Other disorders were reported in Hama and Aleppo. There has been loss of life and much shooting in all three localities, the reports said. A French plane was reported shot down at Hama.

In Lebanon, the situation was reported generally quiet, but a call has been put out for volunteers for the National Guard.

In Iraq, the premier said his government would "do the utmost to support the Levant in this matter."

In Britain's parliament, various MPs were critical of France's action in sending troops to the Levant and one said, "France never will live down the bad reputation it has built up in the Levant."

Eden said yesterday that the British had warned France of the serious consequences which might result from the dispatch of new troops to the Levant.

### In Austria . . .

By JOE PALMER

The setting was a green carpeted mountain glade near Igls, Austria, but the men who were there were Americans and their thoughts were far away—at Salerno, at Anzio, the beaches of Southern France: It was Memorial Day, 1945.

As Maj. Gen. William H. H. Morris, Jr., VI Corps Commander, charted the history and the overseas record of troops of the Corps, the minds of the assemblage turned to men who weren't there today — who never will go home, who will lay in foreign soil forever.

It was Memorial Day, 1945, and the VI Corps—still flushed with its victory and achievements—paused to remember.

The white monument before the general's stand and in the middle of the square of troops, bore the inscription: "In Memoriam: The VI Corps, 1943-1945. North Africa, Salerno, Volturno, Anzio, Rome, Southern France, Vosges, Rhine, Danube, Austria, Brenner Pass."

As the general said, "We are here to pay tribute . . ." And each man in his own particular tribute as the names on the white monument brought back memories.

Highlight of the ceremony came when the general walked forward and placed a flowered wreath on the monument. The flowers encircled a huge numeral "6."

Then there was a moment's deathly silence; broken when the buglers "Taps" echoed and re-echoed through the mountains and the roar of 105s, firing in memoriam instead of anger, crashed through the hills.

It was Memorial Day, 1945, in Igls, Austria. It was a long way from Salerno . . .

#### JAPANESE THROW SEVEN STRONG COUNTERATTACKS AT BRITISH 14TH ARMY

CALCUTTA, May 30 (UP)—The desperate Japanese, resorting to suicide tactics to keep open their escape routes to Siam, threw seven vicious counterattacks at British 14th Army troops today. All of them were repulsed.

The action took place in the Irrawaddy sector. To show the viciousness of the attacks, the Japs in one sector left prepared bunker positions and made a "banzai" charge against the British. All of them were wiped out.

TEHERAN, May 30 (UP)—The Persian government announced today that it had requested the evacuation of British, Russian and American troops from its soil now that "hostilities" in Europe had ceased.

### At Home . . .

NEW YORK, May 30 (ANS)—The United States was too busy producing the tools of war and thinking of the fighting on Okinawa to give much time to the 77th Memorial Day today.

There were the usual parades in many cities, but in most instances it was no holiday—the war factories kept right on working full blast.

In Washington's Arlington cemetery, a wreath was placed on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier and in New York thousands watched a parade which included many veterans of the present war.

In Chicago, a Loop parade featured the appearance of General Mark Clark, CG of the 15th Army Group, who arrived by air this afternoon from Italy.

Few, if any, of the nation's 240 remaining veterans of the War between the States took part in the observance.

#### STALIN, ENVOY HOPKINS CONFER FOR THIRD TIME

(PRESS-RADIO), May 30—President Truman's two special envoys to Europe—Harry Hopkins in Moscow and Joseph L. Davies in London—were in the final phases of their missions today.

Hopkins had his third talk with Marshal Stalin last night and probably will see him again before leaving for the U.S.; perhaps the latter part of the week.

### A Salute To The Infantry



Major General W. H. H. Morris, Jr., VI Corps Commander, is shown here as he decorates a 103rd Division unit flag with a combat infantry streamer. Major General Anthony C. McAuliffe, the 103rd's CG, looks on approvingly. The ceremony was a highlight of a 103rd Division review in Innsbruck Tuesday.

# Actors at Unit Shows

entertainment during the wait-  
 in the ETO is quite a  
 some circles.  
 rs of the 410th Infantry,  
 estioned, asked for every-  
 personal appearances of  
 medians to rodeos, with  
 Name orchestras and movie  
 person just about got a  
 of the votes of more than  
 liers polled.  
 g the big time orchestras  
 e Elroy Frank, Norwood,  
 whose next choices were  
 tars and big league ball  
 ruce R. Berger, Glenn El-  
 wanted movie stars, then  
 e bands and radio comies.  
 William L. Gorwin, San Di-  
 f., seeks "any good dance  
 service band or civilian

George Moore, Climax, N.G.,  
 Bucky Hollingsworth, Kirk-  
 V. Va., wanted orchestras,  
 professional athletes, with  
 favoring big league baseball  
 and Hollingsworth, foot-  
 s.  
 s were the choice of Pfc  
 D. Hobbs, Carlsbad, New  
 with ridin' and ropin' by  
 onals.  
**Wishes Broadway Talent**  
 Charles C. Berry, Luther-  
 d., and Pfc Evangelos S.  
 tes, Seattle, Wash., asked  
 e shows. Phoutrides wants  
 comedies from the Broad-  
 list, "and Berry just asked  
 e shows. The latter's sec-  
 ce was for western and  
 movie stars.  
 Henry Klages, Chicago, Ill.,  
 ke to see late movies. S Sgt  
 D. Kisinger, Kalamazoo,  
 would choose a beer party  
 without entertainment.

**Worms Still Coming**  
 nts have climbed a rung  
 dder in the 45th Division.  
 e now being served at en-  
 ents, sports events, and  
 ows, eliminating the chow  
 ture.

## MOPSY by GLADYS PARKER



## TANKER SAVED BRIDGE BY FIRING AT LIVE WIRE

In the race to capture two bridg-  
 es over the Danube River, elements  
 of the 10th Armored Division,  
 drew to within 150 yards before  
 halting. One was a railroad bridge;  
 the other a vehicular steel girder  
 span.

Sgt Henry E. Bunder, St. Louis,  
 Ill., commander of the lead tank,  
 saw that the train bridge had been  
 blown to bits. One charge was set  
 off earlier on the girder bridge. He  
 opened up with his machine gun  
 and was successful in shooting the  
 wires connecting another 700-  
 pound charge to the bridge.

## Remember? One Year Ago Today

Continuing their unrelenting  
 drives to exterminate kraut troops,  
 units of VI Corps successfully oc-  
 cupied the dominating Colla Laziali  
 Hill, north of Velletri, gaining the  
 advantage of excellent observation.  
 Frosinone, main German strong-  
 hold on Highway 6 since Cassino,  
 fell to Eighth Army troops.

## Decorations

### Hq VI Corps

The Bronze Star has been award-  
 ed to Lt Col Keith H. Ewbank,  
 Kingman, Ind.; Maj James A. Hart,  
 Petersburg, Tenn.; Maj John M.  
 Schreeder, Atlanta; Maj John C.  
 Worden, Hinsdale, N.H.; Maj Wil-  
 liam L. Young, Jr., Danville, Va.;  
 Capt Samuel W. Bishop, Richmond,  
 Va.; Capt Edward A. Brunner, Jr.,  
 Manoa, Penn.; Capt Ronald W.  
 Cooper, Poughkeepsie; Capt Wil-  
 lard A. Creutzer, Mumhall, Penn.;  
 Capt Donald K. Duwe, Lucas, Kans.;  
 Capt Thomas G. Glaria, Winthrop,  
 Mass.; Capt Thomas J. Harrington,  
 Moncure, N.C.; Capt Joseph C.  
 Hegemann, Brooklyn; Capt Gordon  
 O. Johnson, Fargo, N.D.

### 45th Division

The Silver Star has been award-  
 ed to S Sgt Fred A. Barber, Jr.,  
 New York; Lt James A. Creedon,  
 Mentor, Ohio; Pfc William A. Hes-  
 lop, Martins Ferry, Ohio; S Sgt  
 Harold Jerowski, Boston; T Sgt  
 Robert P. Marcinko, Niagara Falls;  
 Capt Richard J. Ohman, Gardner,  
 Mass.; Cpl Le Roy Walters, Jr.,  
 Leopold, Wis.; S Sgt William H.  
 Alter, St. Paul, Ind.; Pfc Allen J.  
 Guriel, New Goshen, Ind.; Sgt Rob-  
 ert E. Laite, Newbury, Mass.; Pfc  
 Horace B. Hitt, Lella Lake, Tex.

Oak Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star  
 has been awarded to Sgt Mario  
 Cocchiara, Somerville, Mass.; Tec  
 4 Howard C. Oakes, Grinnell, Kans.

### 103rd Division

The Bronze Star has been award-  
 ed to Maj Ernest J. Gilman, Kala-  
 mazoo, Mich.; Lt Harry Weber,  
 Summerville, S.C.; Sgt Chester L.  
 LaMoureux, Lake City, S.D.; Capt  
 Robert R. Travers, Brooklyn; Lt  
 Col Melvin F. Huth, Baraboo, Wis.;  
 Maj Allen E. Shollenberger, Ham-  
 burg, Penn.; M Sgt Howard E.  
 Crouch, Philadelphia.

Oak Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star  
 to Cpl Joseph I. Knaebel, Jeffer-  
 son City, Mo.; Maj Sheldon D. El-  
 liott, Falls Church, Va.; Maj George  
 H. Schafer, Chicago.

The Oak Leaf Cluster to the  
 Bronze Star has been awarded to:  
 S Sgt Francis B. McKenmore, Wil-  
 mington, Del.



All decked out in her finest for the  
 breezes as she stands atop deck  
 of a speedboat. But Diana Lewis of  
 M-G-M can't fool us; she tain't  
 gonna ride there with her shoes on.  
 Then again, maybe she isn't going  
 to stand there all the while.

### Horseshoe Experts Vie

Inter-company horseshoe pitch-  
 ing, singles and doubles, is under-  
 way in the 83rd Chemical Mortar  
 Battalion.

## INDIE

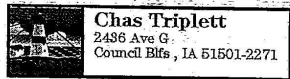
(Courtesy King Features Syndicate. Distr. by GNS)

By Chic Young



**Chas Triplett**  
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Beachhead News 5-31-1945-



Page 95 The Fighting in the Val De Moder by Lise M Pomroy  
23 NOV 1944-19 March 1945

"Suddenly about 450 German SS troops attacked. It was later discovered that the German soldiers had been given schnapps and ether to get them into a state of mind to advance down the main road leading into the town." All the TD soldiers succeeded in getting out with the exception of Lt G. Mitchell and eleven enlisted men. Early in the afternoon C Co entered Schillersdorf where a strong fire fight developed in the afternoon while B Co liquidated a strong point to the North of the village. The 2d Bn CP, previously in Schillersdorf, moved to the Forstwegwald under pressure from the enemy. The road Muhlhausen-Schillersdorf was cut. The 2d Bn, 411th IR, was sent to Zutendorf to restore the MLR and block the enemy's route of supply. After a fierce fire fight Schillersdorf and Muhlhausen were recaptured. The SS withdrew during the night, leaving behind 41 prisoners and 21 dead. It is in Schillersdorf that Pfc Dennis Bellmore died so that the aid station could be safely evacuated :

"Bellmore, a happy-go-lucky ASTP kid who had become a 60mm mortar gunner after he joined the 103d was with four others defending a crossroad. A light machine gun crew, two soldiers armed with carbines and Bellmore's .45 caliber pistol were all that stood in the path of the Germans at that intersection. As the enemy rushed in, firing machine guns, burp guns and rifles, the five Cactus men opened fire. But their machine gun jammed after two rounds. It was frozen. By that time the Germans were 35 yards away. As four of the Americans turned to leave, one sergeant saw the figure of Bellmore on his knees in the snow. His pistol was raised. "What's the matter, kid?" the sergeant cried. "I'm hit" answered Dennis Bellmore. "You guys, take off!". The four men fell back. As they ran they heard at regular intervals the loud report of a .45 caliber pistol. Then came the answering chatter of burp guns. The pistol spoke again, but it was finally lost in a swirl of automatic fire. Dennis Bellmore had died". (History of the 103d Division).

The chaplain's jeep was the last American vehicle to leave Schillersdorf on the 25th in the morning. It carried Sgt Cecil W. Shaw who had silenced a machine gun from a barn. Picked up as a target he had been sent toppling to the ground, unhurt but having lost his rifle. He ran outside and hurled grenades into the oncoming group of Germans until the chaplain picked him up. Three men from E Co had an amusing adventure in Schillersdorf : Pfc M.L. Jacobs, Cpl J.W. Pike and Priv Richard C. Hawn did not know they were facing a battalion. Jacobs hid under a wagon in the courtyard of a farm while the other two were in an outhouse. Jacobs' face was licked by a dog while the Germans questioned civilians nearby. The men were liberated after two days spent over the SS Bn CP.

Meanwhile the enemy had attacked on both sides of Haguenau : "It was the purpose of the Germans to form a pincers that would cut off the salient strongpoint of Haguenau that juts out NE from the Moder river, or so seriously threaten it that the Americans would withdraw along their entire line, back to the open country which is netted with good roads and over which terrain the Germans could employ armor to a good advantage. Haguenau was the keystone of the American arch of defense and the enemy planned to eliminate it by attacking both of its supporting flanks. On the 24th of January they struck in the South at Kaltenhouse against the 242d Infantry, in the North at Schillersdorf against the 409th Infantry and against the 222d Infantry at Ohlungen Forest. The 222d Infantry bore the brunt of the German force in the North for the regiment was nearer to Haguenau and it stood in the natural path of the enemy's advance. Haguenau Forest, its great trees sparse enough for movement, but dense enough for concealment, channeled the enemy's approach to the 222d's lines, across which they hoped to break through into Ohlungen Forest on the South side of the river. There, from the cover of Ohlungen Forest, they would strike out southeastward for Haguenau..." (Seventh Army Historical Section).

The 222d IR was opposed to the 103d and 104th Regts of the 47th VGD, the 119th Regt of the 25th PGD and the 20th and 21st Para Regts of the 7th


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**AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETERY    EPMAI**  
**Epinal (Vosges)**

103rd Infantry Division

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>GRAVE</u>	<u>DATE OF DEAT</u>
1. ALBRIGHT, Vern C.	SSGT	409 Inf	N.C.	B-29-47	2 Dec 44
2. ALLCOX, Alton E.	PFC	410 Inf	N.C.	B-33-33	3 Feb 45
3. ALLISON, Michael M. Jr.	2 LT	928 FA Bn	TENN	B-14-44	28 Nov 44
4. AMICK, Lynn B.	PFC	409 Inf	IOWA	A-11-6	16 Nov 44
5. ASCHETTINO, Albert G.	PVT	409 Inf	N.Y.	A-24-21	19 Nov 44
6. ASHTON, Charles A.	PFC	409 Inf	MASS	A-20-48	16 Nov 44
7. AUBIN, Albert J.	PFC	410 Inf	R.I.	B-32-33	25 Jan 45
8. BANACH, Leo J.	PVT	409 Inf	WIS	B-12-41	30 Jan 45
9. BAUER, Charles P.	SGT	410 Inf	LA	B-25-66	27 Feb 45
10. BECKLEY, Donald M.	PFC	328 Engr CBMT Bn	ILL	A-15-13	24 Jan 45
11. BEERBOWER, Richard L.	PVT	411 Inf	OHIO	B-6-60	16 Nov 44
12. BEITLER, Robert H.	PFC	409 Inf	NEBR	A-6-48	16 Nov 44
13. BELLMORE, Dennis D.	PFC	410 Inf	MINN	B-17-8	26 Jan 45
14. BENSON, Thomas H.	PFC	410 Inf	MICH	A-27-56	5 Mar 45
15. BERLING, Leroy J.	SGT	411 Inf	OHIO	A-32-21	29 Nov 44
16. BEXLEY, William S.	PVT	410 Inf	MISS	A-5-19	29 Nov 44
17. BLACK, Thomas A. Jr.	PFC	410 Inf	TEX	A-4-22	29 Nov 44
18. BOON, James F.	PFC	411 Inf	MICH	A-30-31	29 Nov 44
19. BURKA, Charles F.	PFC	411 Inf	KY	A-14-7	12 Jan 45
20. BUSHEY, Andrew J.	PVT	409 Inf	N.H.	A-37-19	28 Nov 44
21. BYNUM, Lawson A.	TSGT	411 Inf	OKLA	A-36-23	27 Nov 44
22. CARACCIO, Frank Jr.	SSGT	411 Inf	MICH	A-16-17	22 Nov 44
23. CARDENAS, Rosendo	PFC	411 Inf	TEX	B-13-1	22 Nov 44
24. CARLSON, Harold R.	PFC	410 Inf	N.Y.	A-16-13	25 Jan 45
25. CARMAN, Earl L.	PVT	409 Inf	WIS	B-19-20	1 Dec 44
26. CARPENTER, Francis F.	PFC	411 Inf	MICH	B-34-53	14 Feb 45
27. CARRIER, Vaughn N.	SGT	411 Inf	IND	B-42-3	27 Jan 45
28. CARY, Ruffart	PFC	411 Inf	LA	B-17-57	19 Feb 45
29. CHIDESTER, Paul B.	PFC	384 FA Bn	MO	A-42-31	28 Feb 45
30. CHRISTOPHERSON, Joseph	PFC	410 Inf	MINN	B-28-3	27 Feb 45
31. CIHLAR, Frederick F.	PVT	410 Inf	OHIO	B-26-18	26 Dec 44
32. CIOFFI, Clement J.	PFC	411 Inf	N.H.	A-18-38	25 Nov 44
33. CLASS, Harold C.	PFC	411 Inf	MINN	A-34-1	6 Jan 45
34. COLBURN, Jasper T.	PFC	410 Inf	ALA	B-17-2	18 Jan 45
35. CONNER, Wilfred H.	1 LT	410 Inf	ILL	A-39-33	29 Nov 44
36. CONNORS, Raymond P. Jr.	PFC	411 Inf	N.Y.	A-19-7	11 Jan 45
37. COOPER, Seth R.	CPL	411 Inf	N.Y.	A-20-9	17 Nov 44
38. COREY, John A.	SGT	411 Inf	WIS	A-28-1	11 Jan 45
39. DAMASCHKE, Arthur E.	PVT	410 Inf	WIS	A-8-24	30 Nov 44
40. DE GARMO, Albert H.	PFC	411 Inf	OKLA	B-37-5	16 Nov 44
41. DEETER, Ansel C.	PFC	410 Inf	IND	A-5-22	1 Dec 44
42. BODGE, Bayard Jr.	PFC	411 Inf	N.Y.	B-38-18	22 Nov 44
43. DOMBROWSKI, Robert P.	PFC	410 Inf	ILL	B-36-32	27 Jan 45
44. DORGAN, Francis X.	SGT	409 Inf	WIS	B-13-47	21 Nov 44
45. DUNN, Basil C.	PFC	409 Inf	OKLA	B-21-32	4 Feb 45
46. EARLEY, James B.	SGT	409 Inf	CAL	B-36-53	16 Nov 44
47. EATON, Orville C.	PFC	411 Inf	OKLA	A-23-23	11 Jan 45
48. EMERSON, Willie J. Jr.	CAPT	411 Inf	TENN	A-22-16	27 Jan 45
49. EWING, Clinton R.	PFC	409 Inf	KANS	A-16-36	16 Nov 44
50. FARRELL, Loren L.	PVT	409 Inf	ILL	A-20-25	7 Dec 44

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AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETERY  
Epinal (Vosges)

EPINAL

103rd Infantry Division

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>GRAVE</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>
51. FENWICK, Russell E.	PVT	409 Inf	MO	A-40-18	22 Dec 44
52. FIELD, Harold F.	TEC4	411 Inf	IOWA	A-14-23	30 Nov 44
53. FLINT, Junior E.	PFC	410 Inf	KANS	B-26-58	25 Jan 45
54. FUCCY, Russell	SSGT	411 Inf	MICH	B-14-3	22 Nov 44
55. GAJDA, Thomas J.	PFC	409 Inf	N.J.	A-38-14	20 Jan 45
56. GALE, William A.	PFC	411 Inf	PA	B-29-20	27 Nov 44
57. GALONSKI, Harry C.	TEC5	411 Inf	WIS	B-39-27	27 Nov 44
58. GONZALES, Paul J.	PFC	410 Inf	NEBR	B-20-46	25 Jan 45
59. GREEN, Edward F.	PVT	410 Inf	ILL	A-15-40	25 Jan 45
60. GREEN, Tommy C.	PVT	409 Inf	CAL	A-29-51	11 Nov 44
61. GRUETER, Fred Jr.	PVT	411 Inf	N.J.	B-42-1	22 Nov 44
62. HARLESS, James H.	PVT	410 Inf	OKLA	A-7-19	29 Nov 44
63. HARP, Gerald W.	PFC	409 Inf	OKLA	B-28-36	10 Nov 44
64. HARRISON, James N.	PFC	411 Inf	IOWA	A-25-45	4 Dec 44
65. HART, Rudolph I.	PFC	411 Inf	N.Y.	B-22-54	11 Jan 45
66. HARVEY, William J.	SGT	328 Emgr	CMBT Bn IOWA	A-24-36	10 Nov 44
67. HAWKINS, Michael L.	TSGT	411 Inf	N.Y.	B-6-37	27 Nov 44
68. HAYES, Wilbur F.	SGT	410 Inf	WIS	B-12-20	22 Nov 44
69. HELRIGGLE, Elmer R.	PVT	411 Inf	OHIO	A-6-16	11 Jan 45
70. HERNANDEZ, Domingo	PVT	409 Inf	TEX	A-30-51	16 Nov 44
71. HERSCH, Joseph	PVT	410 Inf	N.Y.	B-30-32	25 Jan 45
72. HOUCK, Douglas P.	PVT	410 Inf	N.C.	A-38-20	25 Jan 45
73. HOWARD, Elmer R.	SGT	410 Inf	CONN	A-18-5	1 Feb 45
74. IRISH, Keith L.	2 LT	411 Inf	OHIO	A-7-9	27 Nov 44
75. ISAACSON, Harold E.	TEC5	409 Inf	UTAH	A-35-23	23 Nov 44
76. ISAACSON, Rupert N.	SGT	384 FA Bn	WIS	B-19-18	22 Nov 44
77. JAMES, William F.	PFC	411 Inf	ILL	B-5-56	22 Nov 44
78. JOHNSTON, Charles G.J.	PVT	409 Inf	MO	B-44-1	5 Dec 44
79. JONES, Everett R.	PFC	410 Inf	ILL	A-9-35	25 Jan 45
80. KIMPEL, George C.	SGT	411 Inf	WIS	A-7-22	29 Nov 44
81. KLEIN, Louis R.	PFC	409 Inf	ILL	A-8-22	29 Nov 44
82. KNIGHT, Arthur B. II	PFC	410 Inf	N.H.	A-41-20	25 Jan 45
83. KORKKI, Ray W.	PFC	411 Inf	MINN	A-29-7	17 Nov 44
84. KUNTZ, Joseph A. Jr.	PFC	409 Inf	OHIO	B-36-27	27 Nov 44
85. LACY, Jerome M.	PFC	409 Inf	VA	A-39-31	8 Feb 45
86. LEWIS, Alfred H.	PFC	411 Inf	PA	B-32-43	8 May 45
87. LINQUIST, William L.	PVT	410 Inf	KANS	B-11-27	29 Nov 44
88. LITTLE, Donald J.	PFC	411 Inf	MICH	B-29-1	16 Nov 44
89. LLOYD, Richard B.	PFC	410 Inf	WASH	B-3-16	12 Nov 44
90. LOS, Francis J.	CPL	409 Inf	WIS	A-40-2	1 Dec 44
91. LUCCHESI, Adolph A.	SSGT	410 Inf	ILL	B-43-19	21 Nov 44
92. LUNDBORG, Robert J.	PVT	411 Inf	N.J.	A-40-23	30 Nov 44
93. LUNDEEN, Arnold E.	PFC	411 Inf	MINN	B-6-10	1 Dec 44
94. MARALDO, Louis A.	PVT	409 Inf	N.Y.	B-22-52	4 Dec 44
95. MAURER, John P.	PVT	409 Inf	N.J.	A-17-3	16 Nov 44
96. MAY, Leonard W.	TEC4	411 Inf	WASH	B-18-2	8 Feb 45
97. MC AFEE, Edward H.	SGT	411 Inf	MICH	A-31-49	16 Nov 44
98. MC GUINNESS, Ralph J.	CPL	411 Inf	MASS	A-7-16	20 Jan 45
99. MIKLAS, Stanley A.	PVT	409 Inf	PA	A-43-4	16 Nov 44
00. MILLS, Charlie	PFC	411 Inf	KY	A-39-14	16 Nov 44

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AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETERY EPNAL  
Epinal (Vosges)

103rd Infantry Division

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>GRAVE</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>
101.	MOLLER, Otto F.	PFC	411 Inf	N.Y.	B-11-63	16 Nov 44
102.	NASE, Harold	PVT	409 Inf	VA	B-11-42	27 Nov 44
103.	NEWBERRY, Franklin M.	SGT	410 Inf	OKLA	A-10-60	7 Apr 45
104.	NEWIS, William	SSGT	410 Inf	PA	A-45-19	29 Nov 44
105.	NIEMEYER, Alfred D.	PFC	410 Inf	OREG	B-36-35	29 Nov 44
106.	NITTLER, William P.	PVT	411 Inf	TEX	B-2-56	16 Nov 44
107.	NORTH, Chester R.	SSGT	411 Inf	MO	A-18-23	29 Nov 44
108.	NORTON, Wilfred C.	PFC	328 engr CMBT Bn	MICH	A-11-22	28 Nov 44
109.	O NEAL, Harry	TEC5	411 Inf	CAL	B-9-72	16 Nov 44
110.	ODDO, Samuel A.	SGT	410 Inf	MICH	B-40-27	30 Nov 44
111.	OVERCASH, Bert L. Jr.	PFC	410 Inf	KANS	A-25-3	27 Nov 44
112.	PARRY, Richard C.	2 LT	411 Inf	CAL	A-10-12	8 Mar 45
113.	PERRYMAN, Lloyd G.	PFC	409 Inf	MICH	B-21-44	16 Nov 44
114.	PFEIFFER, Vicyor E.	PFC	411 Inf	OHIO	B-27-6	16 Nov 44
115.	PHILLIPS, William E.	CAPT	410 Inf	KY	B-37-10	25 Nov 44
116.	POINDEXTER, Ollie J.	1 SGT	411 Inf	IND	A-10-9	16 Nov 44
117.	POSTUPAK, Francis P.	PFC	410 Inf	N.Y.	B-36-5	16 Nov 44
118.	PUFFER, Wendell F.	TSGT	411 Inf	VT	B-7-57	21 Feb 45
119.	RAINWATER, James P.	SGT	410 Inf	GA	A-18-3	22 Nov 44
120.	REYNOLDS, James T.	SSGT	411 Inf	N. DAK.	A-7-49	17 Nov 44
121.	RIDOUT, Walter A.	1 LT	383 Inf	MICH	A-28-67	6 Nov 44
122.	RITZLER, John M.	PVT	411 Inf	MICH	A-2-51	28 Jan 45
123.	ROBINSON, Patrick H.	PFC	409 Inf	N. MEX.	B-36-16	9 Nov 44
124.	ROCHE, Cleveland O.	PFC	411 Inf	FLA	B-15-28	20 Jan 45
125.	RODGERS, Wilson F.	PFC	409 Inf	WASH	B-17-60	16 Nov 44
126.	ROMMEL, Donald J.	TEC5	383 FA Bn	ILL	B-20-35	25 Jan 45
127.	ROSS, Fred C. Jr.	PFC	409 Inf	TEX	A-35-3	16 Nov 44
128.	ROSS, Harold	PFC	MP Plat	S.C.	B-19-39	13 May 45
129.	SAKALSKI, Michael G.	PVT	410 Inf	PA	B-31-47	30 Nov 44
130.	SAN MARTIN, Louis C.	CPL	410 Inf	TEX	B-13-44	30 Nov 44
131.	SCHIAGLIONE, Sammy P.	PFC	411 Inf	MICH	A-12-67	13 Jan 45
132.	SCHMIDT, Frank J.	SGT	410 Inf	N.J.	B-15-32	30 Nov 44
133.	SCHOLL, Walter E.	CPL	410 Inf	PA	A-5-13	25 Jan 45
134.	SCHWENDEN, Howard I.	PVT	410 Inf	CAL	A-41-29	29 Nov 44
135.	SEIFERT, Stanley H.	CPL	328 Engr Bn CMBT	PA	B-29-25	28 Jan 45
136.	SENIOR, Paul J.	PFC	410 Inf	CAL	B-17-18	22 Nov 44
137.	SHAW, John W.	PFC	410 Inf	MISS	B-22-48	27 Jan 45
138.	SIER, George A. Jr.	PVT	409 Inf	N.Y.	A-33-21	25 Nov 44
139.	SIKES, Donald W.	PFC	409 Inf	OKLA	B-23-1	25 Nov 44
140.	SINCLAIR, Robert D. Jr.	PFC	411 Inf	MINN	B-7-12	16 Nov 44
141.	STAMSEK, Joe C.	PVT	410 Inf	ARIZ	B-4-57	29 Nov 44
142.	STARK, Oscar A.	TEC5	411 Inf	ILL	B-6-36	19 Jan 45
143.	STEINRAUF, Paul C.	1 LT	103 Rcn Trp	KANS	A-28-22	18 Feb 45
144.	STELMORE, Roman T. Jr.	PFC	409 Inf	ILL	B-9-56	15 Feb 45
145.	STROZESKI, Carl F.	PFC	409 Inf	OHIO	B-19-41	25 Nov 44
146.	SYKES, James D.	2 LT	411 Inf	CAL	B-14-37	30 Nov 44
147.	TEAGUE, Cleo L.	SGT	411 Inf	ILL	B-36-11	16 Nov 44
148.	TESCHENDORFF, Robert	PFC	409 Inf	WIS	B-11-70	24 Nov 44
149.	THACHER, Jackson W.	PVT	328 ENGR Cmbt Bn	PA	R-32-18	4 Dec 44
150.	TILLEMA, Jacob A.	PFC	409 Inf	MICH	A-18-62	9 Nov 44

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AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETERY  
Epinal (Vosges)

EPMAL

103rd Infantry Division

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>GRAVE</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>
151. UPCHURCH, George O.	PVT	411 Inf	TEX	B-15-36	3 Feb 45
152. VAN MATRE, Clarence G.	PFC	409 Inf	MICH	A-11-4	9 Nov 44
153. VANOVER, James H.	PVT	411 Inf	MO	B-39-18	22 Nov 44
154. VOSS, Raymond	PFC	410 Inf	IOWA	A-41-8	29 Nov 44
155. WERSTOVSHK, Willard	CPL	410 Inf	MICH	B-44-19	24 Nov 44
156. WHEELER, Edward A.	PFC	411 Inf	OHIO	A-5-50	27 Nov 44
157. WIGGINS, Leon W.	1 SGT	382 FA Bn	ALA	A-16-28	9 Nov 44
158. WILCOX, Grady	PFC	411 Inf	GA	B-33-58	23 Nov 44
159. ZATKO, George J.	SGT	410 Inf	WIS	A-33-8	29 Nov 44

WALLS OF THE MISSING:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>GRAVE</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>
1. BROOKS, Kenneth A.	PFC	410 Inf	N.Y.	==	18 Jan 45
2. FANO, Salvatore R.	PFC	411 Inf	N.Y.	==	15 Mar 45
3. HELFGOTT, Harold S.	PFC	411 Inf	N.Y.	==	11 Dec 44
4. LUCAS, John W.	PFC	410 Inf	GA	==	24 Jan 46
5. PITTMAN, Harold D.	PFC	328 Engr CMBT Bn	MICH	==	24 Jan 45
6. REED, David W	PFC	411 Inf	ARK	==	16 Mar 46
7. SWANSON, Bernard T.	PFC	410 Inf	CAL	==	4 Dec 45
8. WESTON, William G.	SGT	409 Inf	IOWA	==	3 Dec 44
9. WISDORF, Walter R.	TEC5	328 Engr CMBT Bn	minn	==	24 Jan 45

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